



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Public Affairs**

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### **District Man Pleads Guilty to Sexually Assaulting 17-Year-Old Girl - Victim Was Accosted While Walking Home From Night School -**

WASHINGTON - Donald Davis, 25, pled guilty today - in the middle of trial - to sexually assaulting a 17-year-old girl, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Davis, of no fixed address, pled guilty in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to two counts of first degree sexual abuse. The Honorable Thomas J. Motley scheduled sentencing for September 9, 2011. Davis is facing a maximum sentence of 60 years incarceration. He also will be required to register as a sex offender for the remainder of his life.

According to evidence presented at trial and at the plea hearing, the attack took place on the evening of September 20, 2010. The victim had left night school and was walking home on Alabama Avenue SE. The defendant, a stranger, came up behind her, put a hard object to her back, and threatened to kill her if she did not comply with his demands. When the victim tried to escape, Davis hit her on the head with the hard object. He then took her against her will to an alley in a nearby residential area and, ultimately, to the back of a dark and abandoned house. There, he raped her numerous times. Afterward, he walked her out of the dark alleys.

The girl's family, meanwhile, became worried because she had not returned home as expected. The family went looking for her and saw her coming out of the alley with the defendant. Seeing her family, the victim screamed that the defendant had raped her. As soon as she said this, Davis ran. The victim and her family gave chase – eventually catching and detaining the defendant until the police arrived.

In announcing today's plea, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. praised the team from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) that worked on the case. He praised Youth Investigations Division Detectives Barbara Rauf-Johnson, Yusef Edwards, Frank Santiago, David Gargac and Richard Feser. He also acknowledged the thorough work of Mobile Crime Officers Robert McCollum, Ronald Royster, and Thomas Coughlin. He also praised Seventh District patrol officers Jenny Alvarenga, Joseph Bruno, Henry Salice, and Shayne O'Bannon, who assisted with the investigation.

U.S. Attorney Machen praised the dedicated efforts of those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Intelligence Analyst Lawrence Grasso; Thomas Royal, Anisha Bhatia, Leif Hickling, and Joseph Calvarese, from the Litigation Technology Unit; Victim Witness Advocate Veronica Vaughan, who assisted the victim, and Victim Witness Advocates Katina Adams and David Foster, who assisted witnesses. He also thanked Paralegals Jason Manuel and Joyce Arthur, Supervisory Paralegal Specialist Lynita Greene, and Legal Assistants Ashley Patterson and Charmonique Price. He also thanked summer interns Christina Miranda and Rosanna Niforos for their assistance during trial. Finally, he recognized Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sharon Marcus-Kurn who investigated the case, and Sharon Donovan who, along with Assistant U.S. Attorney Marcus-Kurn, prosecuted the case.

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